

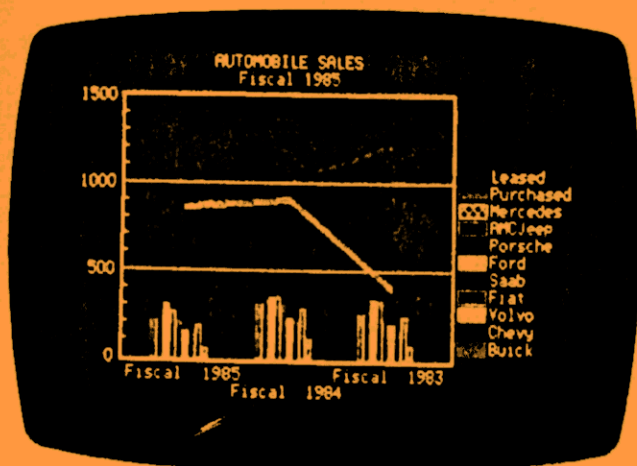
# South Bay Users Group

Contents Copyright SBUG 1986



## DYNAMIC MEMORIES

MAY 1986



## SOUTH BAY USERS GROUP

### PAGE---CONTENTS

3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT by Don Rhodes
4. SOME FAIRE & UNFAIR OBSERVATIONS by Editor
5. KITS AND CATCHES by Don Rhodes
5. WHERE ARE WE NOW - WHERE ARE WE GOING by Editor
7. SOME INFORMATION ON AIDS by Dr. David Dodell
8. TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OF A SOFTWARE PUBLISHER (from Fido News)
9. HOW TO AVOID SYSOP BURNOUT by John OLSON
9. ANSI ART by Jim Lynn
12. UNSORTED MAIL by youall

**LOOK--PAY ATTENTION\*\*** - the next SBUG meeting will be held at the PIZZA HUT at 1105 Saratoga Ave. in Sunnyvale.

Time: 7:15 - 9:30 PM

The next 3 meetings will be held on May 20, June 17, and July 15.

### NOTE THIS NOTE

For those of you lacking the proper number of fingers and toes, meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month.

The speaker will be Frank Vanslager. The subject: The Intel family of microprocessors from the 8088 to the 80386. This is a subject most of us know very little about.

### ATTENTION

\*\*\*\*\*  
**LOOK TO JOSE EGARDEZI:** Owing to the loss of the Dynn auditorium, we are still trying to revitalize the SIGS. Specifically, we wish to have a model 100 group, a CP/M group, and a MSDOS group. Gather your brethren around you and \*\*do your thing to get these going.

### \*\*\*\*\* MEMBERSHIP

If you wish to become a member of SBUG and start receiving our newsletter "DYNAMIC MEMORIES", then send \$20 (check or money order) to the following address;

South Bay TRS-80 Users Group  
P.O. Box 60116  
Sunnyvale, Ca. 94088

or come to one of our meetings. If you also wish to communicate with our bulletin board system (SBUG-80) then include an additional \$25 (a one time fee) for an account on the system. You must be a member of SBUG to have an account on the system. Please include your address and phone number.

!!

COPYRIGHT (C) 1985 SOUTH BAY TRS-80 USERS GROUP (SBUG) WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED. NO PART OF THIS PUBLICATION MAY BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT GIVING CREDIT TO THE AUTHOR AND SBUG. REPRODUCTIONS MAY ONLY BE PERFORMED BY NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS. PROFIT MAKING ORGANIZATIONS MUST HAVE PRIOR WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE EDITOR.

MAY, 1986

#### SBUG STEERING COMMITTEE

TITLE		USERNAME	PHONE
Chairman:	Chris Oman	OMAN	(408) 985-9460
Treasurer:	Don Rhodes	DON	(408) 996-1008
Secretary:	Jim Gonsalves	MANGR	(408) 241-9347
Newsletter Editor	Joel Lee	EDITOR	(408) 926-3999
Librarians:	Bernie Thompson	BERNIE	(408) 867-7455
(disc)	Gary Dixon	GDIXON	(408) 262-6397
(docs)			
Coeditor:	Gerry McKee	GERRY	(408) 752-3207
Sysop:	Jim Gonsalves	MANGR	(408) 241-9347

#### OTHER KEY INDIVIDUALS

Cover designer:	Wright Huntley		
Host Computer:	SBUG	(ALL)	(408) 249-8259

If the need arises, give anyone of us a call.

---

#### THE EDITOR'S BYTES AND BITES

I was told by a Radio Shack manager that the Model 4 is enjoying a good sale to schools. We are all familiar with the Model 4's merits. Nevertheless, if you were a school administrator, what machine would you buy for your charges?

The IBM is out because of the price. So is the AMIGA. Practically you are left with three choices; ATARI, APPLE IIE and the Model 4. The statistics show that many do pick the APPLE. As time goes by, however, and schools become not only computer literate, but computer sophisticated, it may be dawning on them that they simply have to pay more money for the APPLE in order to get the most important things that a computer can give up to the high school level.

The ATARI is another kettle of fish. Certainly price seems to favor the ATARI. But the price of a 2 drive ATARI is very close to the Model 4D. The ATARI still remains ahead on many counts; color, memory, speed, and all the extra capabilities that go with those things. Why not the ATARI, then? Probably because it has not yet established itself as a permanent presence on the microcomputer scene. Finally, the ATARI programs are not entirely free of bugs and many of them are simply inferior. The Model 4 may be a snail, but it's still chewing up a lot of leaves.

**SOUTH BAY USERS GROUP**

**SBUG Financial Statement  
April 25, 1986**

Receipts:	April	Y - T - Date	% Used	Budget
Members dues	20.00	449.00	44.90%	1000.00
SBUG BBS Dues	0.00	0.00	0.00%	200.00
Disk Library	22.00	62.00	51.67%	120.00
Load80	88.00	216.00	108.00%	200.00
Documentation	0.00	0.00	0.00%	40.00
Interest	0.00	3.54	11.80%	30.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>130.00</b>	<b>730.54</b>	<b>45.95%</b>	<b>1590.00</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>				
* Phone	149.71	254.19	105.91%	240.00*
Utilities	0.00	40.00	15.15%	264.00
Printing	62.16	303.19	84.22%	360.00
Postage	22.00	94.00	62.67%	150.00
P O Box	0.00	0.00	0.00%	26.00
Bank charges	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Disk Library	189.97	204.97	409.94%	50.00
Documentation	0.00	0.00	0.00%	80.00
SBUG BBS	0.00	0.00	0.00%	200.00
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>423.84</b>	<b>896.35</b>	<b>65.43%</b>	<b>1370.00</b>
Begin Cash Balance	647.65	519.62	100.00%	519.62
Net Receipts	-293.84	-165.81	-75.37%	220.00
Ending Balance	353.81	353.81	47.84%	739.62

**\*PHONE INCLUDES INSTALLATION CHARGES\***

## SOUTH BAY USERS GROUP

### SOME FAIRE AND UNFAIR OBSERVATIONS

by Editor

So how was attendance at the grand daddy (grand mammy?) of computer fairs? I went on Sunday, and it was good. The talk was that it had been a real crush on Saturday and a little sparse on Thursday and Friday. All in all we need not weep for the entrepreneurs who put it on.

The general atmosphere had changed, as it seems to every year. Two years ago it was very buttoned down with lots of shoe polish in evidence. Heavy on the four in hand tie. Business seemed to be the business of the faire. This year it appeared to have been turned over to the hackers and the smaller entrepreneur. ATARI and AMIGA were represented by user groups. IBM and APPLE were represented, TANDY was not.

One may presume that Comdex is the show for the manufacturers, the heavy business types. The latest in laser printers, rom disks and multimegabyte floppies or multigigabyte hard disks will make their appearance there. We're talking big bucks now, and cannot afford to waste our time with wierdo hackers.

There will certainly be another faire next year, and it will be interesting to see if this trend continues. I think it will. In a way it was a glorified swap meet, and I think that's good, especially the glorification.

Now, to some specifics. The IBM clones were there in force -- PC, XT, and AT. The most interesting perhaps was a kit from Microcomputers, Peripherals and Supplies Inc. This kit included a motherboard with 16 megabytes physical memory range, a 1.2 mb direct drive motor floppy and a 195W power supply. Motherboard with 512K on board, drive, bios, case, keyboard, controllers (floppy & HD) plus power supply may be yours for only \$1595 assembled.

Amquite (the name is just a little too cute) was offering portables cheaper and more powerful than Compaq. 756K, 2 360K floppys for 1395. One year warranty. Pacific Micro Systems was advertising the Pelican drive using the Kodak high density drives holding 2.78 Mbytes formatted. Now all the magazines are announcing that Kodak has pulled out of the disc business leaving a lot of people holding -- not Kodaks -- the bag.

Does anyone here remember when General Electric went into computers? And fell flat on that portion of the anatomy that is furthest behind us when we walk forward? Now they are edging into the area again with Genie. Genie is a competitor of Compuserve. Genie's prices are right. If anyone's interested they may call 800-638-8369. What a comedown for a mighty company that once went head to head with IBM.

Computer (as distinguished from peripheral) manufacturers represented were the following:

1. Apple
2. AT&T
3. IBM
4. Kaypro
5. Zenith

MAY 1986

I did enjoy the appearance of Computer Gaming World. Can the Computer Nudist Colony be far behind? Computer Friends, Inc. was also present, presumably to prevent computer abuse from taking place. "I must warn you that if you continue to pound on that keyboard I shall call the police. Do you know what the penalty for computer abuse is? Ten years in a For-Next loop without hope of a Go sub."

Odds and ends of interest: The Pick operating system. The MacCartridge which will run Apple and Macintosh programs on an Atari ST. Don't run down to the drug store to buy it. The proposed manufacturer, Data Pacific Inc. has to get permission from Apple to manufacture them. A very handsome users' group newsletter from the First Amiga users' group of San Carlos. Absolutely the best looking newsletter I have ever seen. A takeoff on a well known rag (and on certain microcomputer proclivities) "The Irrational Enquirer--Perspiring minds want to know." Finally QUICKDOS a hard disk file manager for MSDOS systems. It looked good, sounds good and sells for 29.95.

## KITS AND CATCHES

From the Desk of Don Rhodes

On the Affordable Computer TV Show, April 24, they explained how people can buy the parts to assemble their own IBM XT or AT computers. Affordable Computer is selling the parts or they will assemble the basic unit for you for \$150 and provide a one year warranty

The AT kit sells for \$1199 which includes the case, power supply, mother board, floppy/hard disk controller card, keyboard and minimum set of ram chips. The monitor, hard disk, floppy disk and multi function board are options. I remember last year when I bought my XT clone, the price was similar, now the AT has dropped to where the XT was last year.

A new product from Lotus called "HAL" (Human Access Language) will interface with 1-2-3, making it hazardous to use 1-2-3 clones from other publishers.

In the wind is a new software product which will poll your most commonly used bulletin boards, auto log on for your messages and files and down load them for you, putting them in a file for your later review. (will this be another example of Vaporware?)

In an article from InfoWorld, April 21, 1986, Managers say Bulletin Boards are part of the job. A company bulletin board provides users with different kind of computers to exchange files, messages and keep abreast of company policies and notices. I have heard of two companies using the "RBBS" bbs software and several other companies have opted for Fido.

## WHERE ARE WE NOW? WHERE ARE WE GOING?

by pompous Editor

I thought it might be interesting to take a little swing through the various aspects of microcomputing to contemplate what's doing and what will very shortly be doing. Let's start with processors, because if there are no processors there are no microcomputers. I'm sure you've thought of that.

## SOUTH BAY USERS GROUP

The world (processor world) is currently made up of 16 bits. These run at from 4.7 Mhz. to 10 Mhz. in a few special cases. Processor speed, once you get up to 4 Mhz. is not really that important for small applications. Well written software will easily make up the difference between 4 and 6 Mhz. If you're running 640K files (and people are now complaining of being cramped by the 640K limitation), each K of speed is going to make a difference.

Most microcomputer users will never run a 640K file. The typical social, hobbyist or business club may have a maximum of a thousand members. The mailing list will easily fit in 128K as will their financial affairs. A 16 bit computer is actually more than they need.

This is true as far as file size is concerned. The appearance of memory resident utilities requires more memory than a 128K machine can handle. All of the utilities that I use would fit comfortably into 256K. If I want to work with the greatest efficiency I would have to go to 16 bits and probably, because the man who makes his first million never stops there, to 512K.

Drive into a shopping center such as Valco or Estridge and look around. Leaving aside the chains there may be 50 to a hundred small businesses. More and more of these people will be finding out that if they want to be competitive they will have to get a micro. The magic name of IBM will lure many of them, but IBM will not sell herself cheaply to these motley suitors. The fact is that \$1500.00 would do it for them. That would buy an 8 bit computer plus printer and software.

32 bit boards are already on the market. 32 bit micros will appear next year. Let's skip over the corporate market and see what a 32 bit computer will do for 'the rest of us'. As stated above, we don't need such power for our spreadsheets, databases or wordprocessors. The only use the noncorporate user might have for this power is in graphics. Graphics chew up memory, they need speed to be really useful for most applications. The engineer, the artist and a wide variety of specialists in design and allied disciplines will find a home amongst the 32 bits. Parenthetically that is what has kept the Macintosh going. The Mac has enough fallings to kill most machines. Its graphics capabilities have made it a survivor.

Now, even though you may not have noticed, we have arrived at storage. There's nothing much new in hard disks, the 1.2Kb floppy is familiar if not ubiquitous, so-o-o? So the CD ROM is here. Compact-disk, read-only-memories is what it's all about. Forget about megabytes, we're talking gigabytes. Encyclopedias on a disk. Can you imagine your local library in one room? Perhaps for your personal library (a large one I'm sure) you would like a WORM? Write-once-read-mostly. If a hundred megabytes isn't enough for you, they will hold up to a gigabyte. These are available now and cost under (gasp) \$5000.00.

Memory depends on a combination of hardware and software. For example the Macintosh, Macplus, 520ST, 1040ST and the Amiga, all using the 68000 processor vary from a 512K maximum (520ST) to 8.5Mb on the Amiga. 32 bit computers will of course be capable of more, depending on software configurations.

Modems recently made the jump to 2400 baud which is becoming more and more common. 9600 baud, the next jump does not appear proximate.

MAY 1986

In the printing field the laser printer is the next king. They have it all. They will do fantastic graphics, letter quality printing at one to three pages per minute. The price on the cheaper models is now at \$2000.00. It can be expected to lower. Certainly there is no way a dot matrix or daisy wheel can compete with the laser once the price is comparable.

The big jump in graphics is Amiga. There is simply nothing like the Amiga's graphics. Nevertheless it is a badly flawed machine and may disappear from the scene. In order to keep up with the graphics capabilities not only of the Amiga, but of certain specialized programs on IBM compatibles a new standard in monitors is needed. EGA is doing the job. This along with fine dot pitch can give resolution impossible two years ago. You may also get yourself a Color Commander from Perma, which changes the colors on the screen to whatever pleases you and adds color to monochrome word processors.

Editor's note: The following strikes me as the kind of thing bulletin boards can do and should do in amongst the gossip and technical chatter.

Dr. David Dodell  
Sysop Fido 114/15 Telephone (602) 235-9653 <300/1200/2400>  
St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center  
Phoenix, Arizona

With the increased interest in Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center Computer Information Service (Fido 114/15) has started a file section devoted to disseminating information about AIDS. Part of the problem with this new disease, is the public nervousness due to the lack of understanding on how the disease is transmitted. To provide an education forum on the disease the following files are available on our board for downloading and reading. Some of the files are copyrighted and can be used for personal reading but not for uploading to any other board. These files are clearly marked.

EDUCATIO.AID -- Education: A forum for Attacking Fear  
AIDSINS.TXT -- Insurers: Watchful but Not Worried  
EDAIDS.TXT -- Education: A forum for attacking fear  
PRACTWK.AID -- Prudent Practices in the Health Workplace  
AIDSHOSP.1 -- AIDS: A Time Bomb at Hospital's Door  
AIDSRES.1 -- AIDS: Research Outlook Taking All Bets  
WKPLACE.AID -- AIDS In the Workplace - Legal Issue  
BLOOD.AID -- Blood Donation and AIDS  
AIDSDIAG.TXT -- Diagnosis AIDS Early  
AIDS.INS -- Alarm over Cost to Treat AIDS Patients  
AIDS1.PRG -- Blood Supply Safer  
AIDS2.PRG -- Public Health Service Recommendations  
AIDS3.PRG -- Recommendations for Patients with Positive Tests  
AIDS4.PRG -- Case Definition of AIDS  
AIDS5.PRG -- Epidemiology  
AIDS6.PRG -- Prevention and Treatment  
AIDS.FCT -- AIDS Facts - from the Public Health Service -  
Excellent Question/Answer format - explaining  
all about AIDS Best File To Read to get overall picture.  
AIDS2.TXT -- General Information about AIDS for Non-Medical Persons  
AIDS4.TXT -- AIDS in Arizona, Texas and Related Drug Use  
AIDS.TST -- HTLV-III Antibody Test : What is It??  
AIDS.NWS -- Drug Successful in Lab Tests



## SOUTH BAY USERS GROUP

AIDS -- News Article about Recent Advances in Aids  
AIDS.TXT -- General AIDS Information

Our board is available 24 hours a day at (602) 235-9653. 300/1200/2400 baud except for FidoMail times.

The following is from Fido News

### Trials and Tribulations of a Software Publisher

It's not easy being a software publisher. Even a small one. Probably the hardest part is getting noticed. There are so many companies publishing software these days that it's tough to get anyone to pay any attention to you. Of course, it can be done. All it takes is money. Where have I heard that before?

If you haven't got money, then it gets rough. In theory, all you need to do is build a better mousetrap and the world will beat a path to your door. In practice, that isn't usually true.

The shareware concept is helping there. (No, this isn't another shareware editorial. Well, not exactly. Sit down right now and write out checks for all of the shareware you're using. End of commercial.) I've spoken to a few other shareware authors lately, and it does seem that it is finally becoming a viable way to market a product. Two weeks ago I'd have said that not more than a half dozen shareware authors actually got anywhere. Now I'm not so sure. There might just be quite a few people out there getting by on shareware income, which is good.

I tend to be cynical. When we first released ARC I didn't think anybody would pay for it. When the first check came in I was astounded. We were torn between cashing it and framing it. (We compromised; we cashed it and framed a Xerox copy.) I've been pleasantly surprised, over and over. People are better than I ever would have imagined.

And yes, the user supported software concept works both ways. The compression stuff in ARC 5.0 took a lot of work. I wouldn't have done it if I hadn't known that people cared.

I was asked recently what it takes for a shareware product to "succeed". I said all the usual, it has to be good, and do something popular, and be cheap; but then another thought came to me. You have to be serious. You have to seriously treat the product as a commercial offering, with all that that entails. It means doing the customer support, answering the letters and the phone calls, being responsive to users' needs, and everything else. It's not enough to slap a shareware notice on it and let it go. You have to be willing to follow through. If you don't take it seriously, then nobody else will either. As a side note: Our printer swears that we'll have the SEAdog manuals by this Wednesday at the latest. We'll start shipping as soon as we get them. Meanwhile, I've seen the SEAdog manual covers. You've gotta see them to believe them. They're, well, they're distinctive. I'm actually not sure whether I like them or not. But they're certainly eye catching.

Editor's note: This is for any misguided souls in our ranks who may have been, or thought of becoming, SYSOPS. (Hurried aside to Jim Gonsalves, you weren't misguided, you were

MAY 1986

drafted and are excused from all suspicions of insanity or other type of waywardness on the grounds of good conscience.)

### HOW TO AVOID SYSOP BURNOUT

By John Olson, SYSOP Third Coast Software Exchange  
713-523-5000

In conversations recently, I have heard at least two other sysops make statements to the effect that they were "burning out" on being in charge of a bulletin board. I too, in the past, have had similar feelings, and I began to wonder how I could help others suffering from this affliction.

In my case, the feeling has typically accompanied problems with the system. For instance: you sit in front of your machine, which you purchased with hard earned dollars (and/or for which you spent countless hours developing and maintaining software), and listen to the squeaking bearings as one of your floppies (or even worse, your hard disk!) gasps its last breath. You read comments to the SYSOP where someone is complaining about getting "read errors" on that drive. Then the final crushing blow; you watch as a "Twit" tries to crash your security. Its sort of like a half dead beetle being dragged away by ants.

The systems I run are typically for file exchange, with little or no BBS facilities. Once in a while, someone will call up over a period of several days, and download files for hours at a time. They obviously are simply going down the directory, and have no purpose in mind other than to fill up disks (or to keep others from getting in). They never upload anything, and are usually never heard from again. Hey! I accept uploads too!

What's the solution? In my case, I can trace my longevity (over 5 years as SYSOP of 5 computers) to the caring actions of maybe 3 or 4 people. These are the people who use my system and then reciprocate in some way. Some of these people are responsible for the vast majority of my uploads. One gentlemen ALWAYS leaves a short message to say "Thanks" when he downloads a file. (Try THAT sometime; you'll be amazed at the impression it makes on the SYSOP!) Having an assistant SYSOP and donations of equipment are more direct ways to relieve the grief.

The point is, if only a few people would express a little compassion for the guy that runs their favorite board, it could insure that it will be there a while longer. The acts of one person (YOU!) might make the difference. Don't assume someone else will do it. There have been some very fine boards that are no longer around simply because of thoughtless users.

Ubiquitous editor's note: Beware of the graphics in the following article. My printer has its own interpretation of ASCII.

### ANSI ART

by Jim Lynn, 129/384

When last we left our faithful Fido, we had the basis for simple ANSI cursor control and color changes....now, let's do a simple trick that will leave 'em with their mouths open and their chins in their laps...

Imagine a plain ol' text file, scrolling up off the screen, when all of a sudden, a window appears in the middle of the screen and "really important" information pops up. Not too impressed, you say? Qmodem does it all the time.. but what if the caller's software doesn't support windows, and what if you are tired of people "missing" something really important in the bulletin or welcome messages... well read on..

1) Issue a SCP (Save Cursor Position) so that we can restore the cursor to where it belongs.

3) Send the contents of the window (complete with border characters)

4) Restore the cursor by sending the RCP sequence.

Last item for the week, if you work it just right, you can pace the text so that immediately after the window appears, the MORE? prompt kicks in giving you a pause. Building on that thought... why not do a Clear Screen, send out the "normal" text and build the window, and after the MORE? prompt (since you have a fairly good guess where everything is on the caller's screen) proceed to 'erase' the window by writing a copy of what was under the window. This will make it appear that the window vanished, like good windows should...

 $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}$ 

2[2] This is a demonstration of a faked window. The only dead giveaway is that the "window" is destructive and can not restore what was underneath.... but we can fake that also!!!!

- 10 -

This is just text to fill the screen. This is just text to fill the screen. This is just text to fill the screen.

```

^s
^4;35H/-----+
^5;35H  1/2
^6;35H  1/2
^7;35H  1/2
^8;35H+-----/
^5;36HThis is line one.
^6;36HThis is line two.
^7;36HThis is line three.
^23;0H                                     %
^23;0H                                     %
^23;0H                                     %
^5;36HThis is line two.
^6;36HThis is line three.
^7;36HWe fake a scroll!!!
^23;0H                                     %
^23;0H                                     %
^23;0H                                     %
^30m
^4;35Hzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz^0m
^5;35HEn. This is just text
^6;35Ht to fill the screen.
^7;35HEn. This is just text
^8;35Ht to fill the screen.
^uThis is just text to fill the screen. This is just text to
fill the screen. This is just text to fill the screen.
This is just text to fill the screen. This is just text to
fill the screen. This is just text to fill the screen.
This is just text to fill the screen. This is just text to
fill the screen. This is just text to fill the screen.
This is just text to fill the screen. This is just text to
fill the screen. This is just text to fill the screen.
This is just text to fill the screen. This is just text to
fill the screen. This is just text to fill the screen.
This is just text to fill the screen. This is just text to
fill the screen. This is just text to fill the screen.
1/2+1/2+1/2

```

First, save everything between (but not including) the  $\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{2}$ 's in a file.

Secondly, replace the ^ symbols with ASCII 27's (ESCape sequence) Thirdly replace the % symbols with non-printing characters (I use an ASCII 8 which is a backspace.) Fourth, type it from DOS.

The lines with the %'s at the end are simply to eat up time. If it wasn't for them and the time that they take to print, then the window would appear, scroll, and disappear before you have a good chance to see them.

In a nut-shell, what we do is clear the screen so that we know where we are on the user's screen, print some of the text on the screen, save our position, fake the window, make it go away by printing over it with a copy of what was under it, and lastly we restore the cursor position and continue to print...

## SOUTH BAY USERS GROUP

If you notice, I used "plain normal" characters for the border characters, instead of IBM graphics.... This allows us to show a border to all the machines that do allow ANSI's but do not have the same high-ASCII characters as IBM.

Next article, we will do some things with animation that will make Disney turn in his grave!

## Cape Cod Fido 101/105

### FIDOGRAMS - YOUR LINK TO EVERYONE!

It's been several months since an article about the FidoGram free telegram service has appeared in FidoNews. That, coupled with the fact that the telegram rush of the holiday season has long since gone by, makes me feel that it's time to review some of the pertinent features of the service, and how you can make it work best for you.

First, for those of you new to FidoNet, the FidoGram service is brought to you as a free public service by the thousands of Amateur Radio operators across the country who participate in a network called the National Traffic System. The purpose of NTS is to provide the public with a free communications service which also serves to exercise our skills and equipment on a daily basis. This exercising is necessary to insure our readiness for times of emergency when normal communications lines are either severely loaded or non-existent, such as during the Mexico City disaster. To put it in perspective - we NEED your FidoGrams...

What type of messages can you reasonably expect to send via FidoGram? Any non-business, personal message that does not result in a profit for any party, and which is not contrary to the laws of decency. You should be aware that youngsters and little ole ladies are equally likely to be responsible for bulletin board graffiti, but their peculiar position in the community must be respected.

### UNSORTED MAIL

Read Message:

R)eply K)ill E)nter N)ext P)revious  
-)Read-Orig. +)Read-Reply Q)uit  
[8] 1 - 9 R K E N P - + Q or ? for help: P  
#7 7 13 Apr 86 10:31:29  
From: Gerald McKee  
To: Chris  
SEE ALSO #9  
Subj: RD DRIVE CONTROLLERS

SO FAR, I HAVE TRIED WESTERN DIGITAL, OMTI, RADIO SHACK (XEDEC) AND HAVE A CERTIFIED WESTERN DIGITAL 1002WXT ON THE OVERNIGHT AIR!) I EVEN WENT TO THE 1200HD TO TRADE UP, AND SARATOGA GAVE ME THE BUSINESS TO THE EXTENT THEY WERE NOT TRADING THE SYSTEMS AT THE USUAL DIFFERENCE IN PRICE! I ENDED UP WITH A 1200 HD WITH NO VIDEO INTERFACE, NOR MEMORY, NOR RS-232 FOR 500.00 TO BOOT! I BACKED OUT OF THAT HOLE AS FAST AS I COULD. BROUGHT THE

MAY 1986

1000 BACK HOME, AFTER RETURNING ALL I HAD BOUGHT FOR IT (IN LAST 20 DAYS, MANAGER WOULD NOT TAKE RETURNS OF ANYTHING HE HAD NOT SOLD TO ME PERSONALLY!). WILL TRY NEW BOARD, AS SOON AS IT ARRIVES. IF NO GOOD RESULTS, IT GOES BACK, THE DISTRICT MANAGER RADIO SHACK GETS TO HELP ME RETURN ALL THE 1000 SYSTEM FOR CREDIT, AND I GO FULL IBM CLONE, FROM MILPITAS Y.E.S. COMPUTERS!!!! GERALD MCKEE

R)reply K)kill E)nter N)ext P)revious  
- )Read-Orig. + )Read-Reply Q)uit  
[7] I - 9 R K E N P - + Q or ? for help: P  
#6 7 11 Apr 86 22:21:26  
From: Chris Oman  
To: Gerry McKee  
Subj: HARD DISK DRIVES

GERRY,  
I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU ARE TRYING TO GET A HARD DISK RUNNING FOR YOUR MODEL 1000. I HAVE BEEN FOOLING WITH HARD DISKS FOR MY MODEL 4 & LOBO MAX-80. I JUST GOT THE HARD DISK RUNNING FOR THE LOBO MAX-80 AND IT IS REALLY SWEET. IT IS REALLY TOUGH GETTING THE HARD DISK INTO THE 1000 DUE TO LIMITED SLOTS AND CARD LENGTH. I HAVE AN SHORT ADAPTER CARD TO ALLOW AN EXTERNAL HARD DISK THAT YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN. I ALSO NEED SOME INFO. ON THE HARD DISK CONTROLLER CARDS THAT I UNDERSTAND YOU HAVE FROM RADIO SHACK. I WILL BE OUT OF TOWN FOR A FEW DAYS SO WILL NOT BE AT THE CLUB MEETING BUT SHOULD BE BACK FOR STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING ON SATURDAY AT 1:00 PM. IF YOU COULD BRING THE RS CONTROLLER CARD(S) TO THE SAT. MEETING, I WOULD LIKE TO LOOK AT ONE. THIS HARD DISK MOD. IS QUITE A CIRCUS DUE TO CONTROLLERS, DISK DRIVES, SOFTWARE DRIVERS, ETC.  
SEE YOU LATER,  
CHRIS

R)reply K)kill E)nter N)ext P)revious  
- )Read-Orig. + )Read-Reply Q)uit  
[6] I - 9 R K E N P - + Q or ? for help: P  
#3 7 29 Nov -4 19:20:10  
From: Gerald McKee  
To: Everyone  
Subj: lost members

Suggest we hold that file open, and about mid-year we print a S P E C I A L I S S U E in sufficient quantity, to cover complete mailing, inviting the dropped members back. This should correspond with the completion of our NON-PROFIT CORPORATION status! That would save postage, and we would not be wasting copies trying to draw them back regularly!  
Another Idea I have, is to hold a one time Special

## SOUTH BAY USERS GROUP

Invitation Sale...Members/Past Members only....  
Featuring Donated Items...(After Incorporation they  
would be deductible to the donor) to raise monies  
to get the Education Fund going! Gerald Mc Kee

Unpleasant Editor's Interjection -- I don't think we  
can afford the printing costs.

#67 10 23 Apr 86 23:58:11 (RECV'D)

From: Don Rhodes  
To: Sam Kimery  
Subj: Membership

Now I now what your doing. I just read your message and just havn't received  
your dues yet.. The mail pick up at the Post Office is done once a week by  
someone else. Be glad to call you, now that I know your phone number and let you know  
what the status is. Sorry it took so long to get around to answering you. I call her twice  
a day, but have not read the Sysop Comments messages for a couple of days.

R)eply K)ill E)nter N)ext P)revious

-)Read -Orig. +)Read -Reply Q)uit

[67] 1 - 80 R K E N P - + Q or ? for help: N

#68 9 31 Dec C9 00:46:06 (RECV'D)

From: Don Rhodes  
To: Bernie Thompson  
Subj: New caller

Eric Rasmussen, Stanford Med Student, called my BBS tonight. He has a Tandy  
2000 and is looking for Public Domain Software. I referred him to Ed Hoover  
and to you.

[69] 1 - 80 R K E N P - + Q or ? for help: N

#70 13 24 Apr 86 13:04:56 From: Don Rhodes

To: All  
Subj: Day light savings time

### Daylight Savings Time

This coming Sunday, the 27th of April, most of the country goes  
on Daylight Savings Time. FidoNet does NOT observe Daylight  
Savings Time, so do NOT advance your system clock.

If you want to advance your system clock anyway, then you must  
also advance all of your mail events.

Fido Administrator Fido316.nws

[70] 1 - 80 R K E N P - + Q or ? for help: N

#71 6 24 Apr 86 21:11:32

From: Dean Severns  
To: Sysop  
Subj: Membership Status

I signed up for the use of the BBS at the February meeting. I have been away  
for a while and this is the first time I tried to log on. The system doesn't  
seem to recognize me as a member and I would like to access the file section.  
I will call back in a few days to check on my status. Thanks

South Bay TRS-80 Users Group  
P.O. Box 60116  
Sunnyvale, Ca 94088

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**